

More Application of:

Serial No.: 09/509,073

Filed: July 22, 1999

For: An Apparatus For Facilitating
The Connection of Tubulars
Using A Top Drive

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: J. Hawkins Gay

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APR 22 2003

GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 17, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response extended one month to expire on April 17, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no fee is due in conjunction with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/0012/RDE, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

THE PENDING CLAIMS:

15. An apparatus for connecting tubulars using a top drive, comprising:
a body connectable to said top drive;